



WISCONSIN FARM REPORTER

June 4, 2019 - Vol. 19, No. 10

Inside This Issue:

- Agricultural Prices Received
- Milk Prices
- Floriculture
- Milk, Cattle & Hogs Production, Disposition & Income
- Farm Labor

The Wisconsin Farm Reporter is compiled from data and reports released by the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). All NASS data and reports are available free at www.nass.usda.gov

Prices Received by Farmers

The April 2019 average price received by farmers for **corn** in Wisconsin was \$3.46 per bushel. This was down 8 cents from March and down 6 cents from the previous April.

The April **soybean** price, at \$8.23 per bushel, was down 38 cents from March and down \$1.54 from the previous April.

The April **oat** price was \$3.40 per bushel, 48 cents above the March price and 16 cents above April 2018.

All **hay** prices in Wisconsin averaged \$177.00 per ton in April, down \$14.00 from March but \$24.00 above April 2018. The **alfalfa hay** price averaged \$183.00 per ton in April, down \$20.00 from March but \$18.00 above the previous April. The **other hay** price averaged \$160.00, up \$8.00 from March and up \$40.00 from the April 2018 price.

Prices Received by Farmers

WISCONSIN	April 2018	March 2019	April 2019
	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)
Cornbu	3.52	3.54	3.46
Hay, all baledton	153.00	191.00	177.00
Alfalfaton	165.00	203.00	183.00
Otherton	120.00	152.00	160.00
Oatsbu	3.24	2.92	3.40
Soybeansbu	9.77	8.61	8.23
UNITED STATES	April 2018	March 2019	April 2019
	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)
Cornbu	3.58	3.61	3.52
Hay, all baledton	162.00	170.00	184.00
Alfalfaton	183.00	184.00	199.00
Otherton	124.00	147.00	151.00
Oatsbu	2.93	2.66	3.02
Soybeansbu	9.85	8.52	8.28
Calvescwt	170.00	170.00	174.00
Cattle, all beefcwt	119.00	126.00	125.00
Cows ¹cwt	67.50	62.80	61.30
Steers & Heiferscwt	122.00	129.00	128.00
Hogs, allcwt	45.30	46.50	59.40
Barrows & Giltscwt	45.50	46.50	59.70
Sowscwt	40.20	43.90	50.60
Eggs (market) ²doz	1.01	0.639	0.373

¹ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter. ² Mid-month price. Also referred to as table eggs.

February Milk Prices

The Wisconsin all milk price for April 2019 was \$17.90 per hundredweight (cwt). This was 60 cents higher than last month's price and \$1.40 higher than last April's price.

The U.S. all milk price for April was \$17.70 per cwt, 20 cents lower than Wisconsin's price but 20 cents higher than last month's U.S. price. Fourteen of the 23 major milk producing states had a higher price when compared with March, 2 states had no change in price, and 7 states had a lower price. Iowa, South Dakota, and Wisconsin all had the highest price increase, up 60 cents from last month.

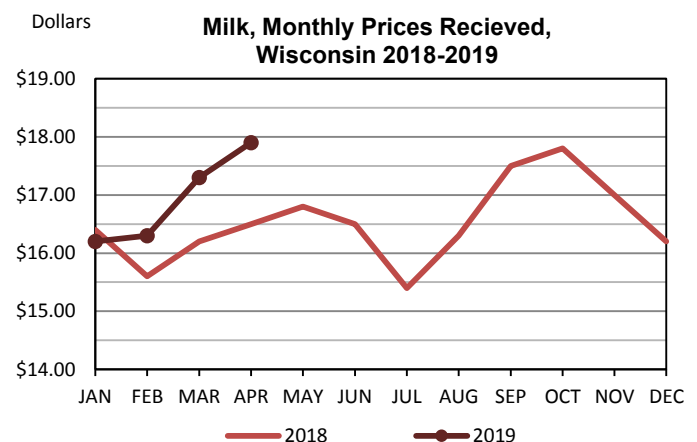
The Chicago Mercantile Exchange* (CME) 40-pound block cheese price closed at \$1.7150 per pound on May 31, while barrels were \$1.5400 per pound. The CME butter price was \$2.3600 per pound.

For the week ending May 25, 2019, the Agricultural Marketing Service* U.S. weekly 40-pound block cheese price averaged \$1.7075 per pound, and 500 pound barrels adjusted to 38 percent moisture averaged \$1.6880 per pound. The U.S. butter price was \$2.3413 per pound.

Milk Prices¹

Selected states	April 2018		March 2019		April 2019	
	Price per cwt.	Fat test	Price per cwt.	Fat test	Price per cwt.	Fat test
	(dollars)	(percent)	(dollars)	(percent)	(dollars)	(percent)
Milk for all uses						
California	14.68	3.75	17.30	4.02	17.40	3.84
Idaho	15.30	3.97	17.00	4.02	17.20	3.93
Iowa.....	16.30	3.98	17.70	4.01	18.30	3.93
Michigan	14.50	3.86	16.50	3.87	16.40	3.80
Minnesota	16.60	3.99	17.80	4.12	18.10	4.01
New Mexico	14.30	3.66	15.90	3.78	16.10	3.71
New York	16.10	3.90	18.30	3.96	18.20	3.90
Pennsylvania	16.40	3.84	18.50	3.91	18.30	3.84
Texas	16.50	4.07	17.70	4.21	18.10	4.12
Wisconsin	16.50	3.94	17.30	3.97	17.90	3.89
United States	15.70	3.87	17.50	3.99	17.70	3.89

¹ Before deduction for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.



Floriculture

The 2018 wholesale value of **floriculture** crops for all growers with \$10,000 or more in sales in Wisconsin totaled \$82.0 million. There were 369 total producers, 145 of whom had sales of greater than \$100,000. Greenhouse space for 2018 totaled 10.4 million square feet, and accounted for 96 percent of the total covered area. Shade and temporary cover, at 431,000 square feet, and open ground, at 980 acres, accounted for the remainder of the area. For operations with \$100,000 or more in sales in Wisconsin, annual bedding and garden plants accounted for the largest portion of sales, at \$46.4 million, followed by herbaceous perennial plants, at \$16.6 million.

Nationally, the 2018 wholesale value of floriculture crops is up 6 percent from the 2015 valuation. The total crop value at wholesale for all growers with \$10,000 or more in sales is estimated at \$4.63 billion for 2018, compared with \$4.37 billion for 2017. California continues

to be the leading state, with crops valued at \$1.20 billion. The number of producers for 2018, at 6,386, is up 8 percent from the 2015 count of 5,913. Total covered area for floriculture crop production was 859 million square feet in 2018, up 12 percent from the 2015 area of 767 million square feet. The average peak number of hired workers employed on operations in 2018 was 19. A total of 4,437 operations hired workers during 2018.

The total wholesale value of floriculture crops sold by operations with \$100,000 or more of sales was \$4.60 billion for 2018, up 9 percent from the 2015 total. These operations account for 99 percent of the total value of \$4.62 billion in floriculture crops, but comprise only 44 percent of all producers. California accounts for 26 percent of the total wholesale value, Florida ranks second with 20 percent, while Michigan ranks third with 10 percent. New Jersey and Ohio round out the top 5, accounting for 5 and 4 percent, respectively.

Floriculture, Wholesale Producers, Production, Price, and Value – Wisconsin: 2018

Plant type	Producers ¹	Quantity sold, total all sizes	Percentage of quantity sold at wholesale	Wholesale price	Value of all sales at wholesale ²
	(number)	(1,000)	(percent)	(dollars)	(1,000 dollars)
Bedding/garden plants:					
Flats (annuals)					
Begonias.....	83	65	52	7.21	469
Geraniums from vegetative cuttings	6	1	21	13.76	14
Impatiens, other.....	88	142	39	6.88	977
Marigolds	89	73	54	7.29	532
Other flowering and foliar.....	87	771	74	10.89	8,396
Pansies/violas.....	89	104	56	8.66	901
Petunias	94	97	54	8.01	777
Vegetable types	76	127	60	13.40	1,702
Pots (annuals)					
Begonias.....	83	223	26	(NA)	743
Geraniums from vegetative cuttings	94	813	39	(NA)	2,843
Impatiens, other.....	49	130	58	(NA)	339
Impatiens, New Guinea	89	500	76	(NA)	706
Other flowering and foliar.....	82	5,618	79	(NA)	12,738
Petunias	65	235	16	(NA)	675
Vegetable types	59	1,723	77	(NA)	4,604
Hanging baskets (annuals)					
Begonias.....	76	41	50	13.52	554
Geraniums from vegetative cuttings	68	49	38	9.13	447
Impatiens, other.....	67	31	44	6.09	189
Impatiens, New Guinea	58	31	68	7.96	247
Other flowering and foliar.....	77	957	87	7.87	7,532
Pansies/violas.....	27	9	59	6.28	57
Petunias	78	108	50	6.19	669
Herbaceous perennials					
Chrysanthemums (hardy/garden)	73	976	86	(NA)	2,868
Daylilies	50	91	62	(NA)	444
Ferns (hardy/garden)	35	17	52	(NA)	93
Hostas	69	174	53	(NA)	796
Other potted herbaceous perennials	82	4,079	51	(NA)	12,075
Peonies.....	43	20	67	(NA)	319
Cut flowers:					
Dahlias..... stem	3	8	26	8.45	68
Gladioli	4	6	2	1.84	11
Snapdragons..... spike	4	6	25	0.89	5
Sunflowers..... stem	4	35	43	0.73	25
Tulips	5	51	48	0.80	41
Flowering potted plants:					
Chrysanthemums, florist	14	92	81	(NA)	559
Lilies, Easter	14	38	81	(NA)	278
Poinsettias	35	428	83	(NA)	2,057
Spring flowering bulbs	12	11	45	(NA)	63
Potted foliage.....	21	(NA)	14	(NA)	872

(NA) Not available. ¹ Operations with \$100,000+ sales. ² Equivalent wholesale value of all sales.

MILK PRODUCTION: Marketings, Income, and Value, 2014-2018

Year	Combined marketings of milk and cream				Used for milk, cream,		Gross producer income ¹	Value of milk produced ^{2,3}
	Milk Utilized	Average returns		Cash receipts from marketings	Milk Utilized	Value		
		Per cwt. milk	Per lb. milkfat					
	(million lbs)	(dollars)		(1,000 dollars)	(million lbs)	(1,000 dollars)		
2014	27,531	24.50	6.48	6,745,095	16	3,920	6,749,015	6,809,775
2015	28,771	17.80	4.73	5,121,238	15	2,670	5,123,908	5,167,340
2016	29,850	16.80	4.44	5,014,800	16	2,688	5,017,488	5,058,480
2017	30,080	18.10	4.74	5,444,480	14	2,534	5,447,014	5,490,273
2018	30,320	16.50	4.24	5,002,800	14	2,310	5,005,110	5,045,535

¹ Cash receipts from marketings of milk and cream plus value of milk used for home consumption. ² Includes value of milk fed to calves. ³ Value at average returns per 100 pounds of milk in combined marketings of milk and cream.

CATTLE AND CALVES: Inventory, Supply and Disposition, Wisconsin, 2014-2018

Year	All cattle and calves January 1	Calf crop	Inshipment	Marketings		Farm slaughter	Deaths	
				Cattle	Calves	Cattle and calves	Cattle	Calves
				(1,000 head)				
2014	3,400	1,400	107	836	370	4	62	135
2015	3,500	1,380	110	890	401	6	63	130
2016	3,500	1,420	143	905	403	5	65	135
2017	3,550	1,430	163	1,068	378	5	62	130
2018	3,500	1,420	163	1,061	375	4	63	130

CATTLE AND CALVES: Production, Average Price, and Income, Wisconsin, 2014-2018

Year	Production	Marketings	Cash receipts	Value of home consumption	Gross Income
	(1,000 pounds)		(1,000 dollars)		
2014	1,375,951	1,302,910	2,008,775	38,003	2,046,778
2015	1,383,837	1,394,950	2,128,331	49,110	2,177,441
2016	1,405,233	1,422,783	1,639,375	35,644	1,675,019
2017	1,527,467	1,646,915	1,846,035	28,501	1,874,536
2018	1,510,049	1,633,300	1,752,726	27,994	1,780,720

HOGS: Inventory, Supply and Disposition, Wisconsin, 2014-2018

Year	Beginning Inventory	Pig Crop	Inshipment	Marketings	Farm Slaughter	Deaths
	(1,000 head)					
2014	295	650	155	762	1	27
2015	310	673	150	785	1	27
2016	320	661	195	814	1	26
2017	335	772	193	961	1	34
2018	305	867	165	979	1	33

HOGS: Production and Income, Wisconsin, 2014-2018

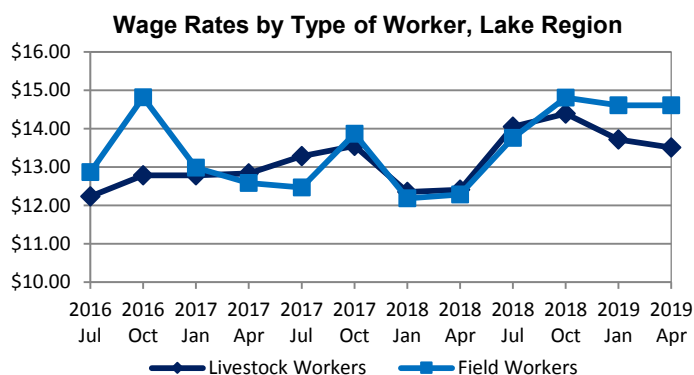
Year	Production	Marketings	Value of Production	Cash Receipts	Value of home consumption	Gross Income	All hogs December 1 current year
	(1,000 pounds)		(1,000 dollars)				(1,000 head)
2014	143,496	150,723	122,464	136,313	630	136,943	310
2015	146,130	149,745	96,792	105,978	599	106,577	320
2016	142,431	150,758	84,912	97,927	667	98,594	335
2017	164,587	175,911	107,515	122,722	572	123,294	305
2018	173,518	177,969	112,135	122,706	683	123,389	325

Farm Labor

Lake Region

There were 41,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Lake Region (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin) during the reference week of January 6-12, 2019. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$14.65 per hour, up \$1.59 from January 2018. The number of hours worked averaged 38.4 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 37.7 hours in January 2018.

During the reference week of April 7-13, 2019, there were 49,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Lake Region (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin). Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$14.47 per hour during the April 2019 reference week, up \$1.45 from April 2018. The number of hours worked averaged 39.8 for hired workers during the reference week, up from 39.0 hours in April 2018.



United States

There were 629,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 7-13, 2019, down 3 percent from the April 2018 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 499,000 during the week of January 6-12, 2019, down 7 percent from the January 2018 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$14.71 per hour during the April 2019 reference week, up 7 percent from the April 2018 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$13.80 per hour, up 8 percent. Livestock workers earned \$13.61 per hour, up 6 percent. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$13.73 per hour, was up 8 percent from the 2018 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 40.7 hours during the April 2019 reference week, up 1 percent from the hours worked during the April 2018 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$14.96 per hour during the January 2019 reference week, up 6 percent from the January 2018 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$13.77 per hour, up 7 percent, while livestock workers earned \$13.80 per hour, up 7 percent from a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$13.78 per hour, was up 7 percent from the January 2018 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 39.3 hours during the January 2019 reference week, up 3 percent from the hours worked during the January 2018 reference week.

Hired Workers and Wage Rates – Lake Region¹ and United States: 2018-2019

	Lake Region			United States		
	April 2018	January 2019	April 2019	April 2018	January 2019	April 2019
Hired workers on farms(1,000 workers)	43	41	49	648	499	629
Hours worked by hired workers (hours per week)	39.0	38.4	39.8	40.2	39.3	40.7
Wage rate ²						
Field and livestock combined.....(dollars per hour)	12.35	13.95	13.90	12.74	13.78	13.73
Field(dollars per hour)	12.28	14.61	14.61	12.72	13.77	13.80
Livestock(dollars per hour)	12.41	13.72	13.51	12.78	13.80	13.61
All hired workers.....(dollars per hour)	13.02	14.65	14.47	13.72	14.96	14.71

1. Lake Region includes Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. 2. Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided to some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.



The Wisconsin Farm Reporter has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection.

Media contact: Greg Bussler
USDA, NASS, Upper Midwest Region,
Wisconsin Field office

(800)789-9277
(608)224-4848
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/>